

FORM PTO-1390 (Modified) (REV 11-98)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 112740-178
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371			U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR) 09/786062
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/DE99/02442	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 4 August 1999	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 31 August 1998	
TITLE OF INVENTION WDM RING NETWORK AND METHOD			
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Horst Mueller			
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1). 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date. 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). 7. <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210). 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 9. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 10. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)). 11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409). 12. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)). 			
Items 13 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 15. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 18. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 19. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail 20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: 			
Submission of Drawings - Figures 1-6 on five sheets			

Page 2 of 2

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)

Applicant(s): Horst Mueller

Docket No.
09/786062
112740-178

Serial No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Group Art Unit
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Invention: **WDM RING NETWORK AND METHOD**

I hereby certify that the following correspondence:

Transmittal Letter to the United States Designed/Elected Office in duplicate, International application as filed, English translation, executed declaration, Preliminary Amendment, Submission of drawings Figures 1-6 on five sheets, filing fee \$860.00 (see attached envelope for executed assignment and fee), postcard

(Identify type of correspondence)

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

February 28, 2001*(Date)*Julie Alonzo*(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)**(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)*EL416275410US*("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)*

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IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED/DESIGNATED OFFICE
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY-CHAPTER II

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

APPLICANT: Horst Mueller DOCKET NO: 112740-178
SERIAL NO: GROUP ART UNIT:
EXAMINER:
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/DE99/02442
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 04 August 1999
INVENTION: WDM RING NETWORK AND METHOD

15 Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

20 Please amend the above-identified International Application before entry
into the National stage before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 35 U.S.C.
§371 as follows:

In The Specification:

On page 1, cancel lines 1-3 and substitute the following therefor:

--S P E C I F I C A T I O N

25

TITLE**WDM RING NETWORK AND METHOD****BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION****Field of the Invention**

30 The present invention relates to a WDM ring network, and method, wherein
the transmission capacity of such ring network, which is used predominantly for one-
way data transport, can be taken advantage of.

Description of the Prior Art--.

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On page 1, line 6, cancel "such".

On page 1, line 6, cancel "e.g.".

On page 1, line 8, insert --for example,-- after the ",".

On page 1, line 8, cancel "are" and substitute therefor --is--.

5 On page 1, line 9, insert a --,-- after "server".

On page 1, line 10, cancel "this" and substitute therefor --the--.

On page 1, line 16, insert --both-- after "direction".

On page 1, line 16, insert --and from-- after "to".

On page 1, line 17, cancel "and from the subscriber".

10 On page 1, line 21, insert --present-- before "invention".

On page 1, lines 21-22, cancel "based on the object of specifying" and substitute therefor --, therefore, directed to--.

On page 1, line 22, cancel "a" before "method".

15 On page 1, cancel lines 25-26 and substitute the following centered heading therefor:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

On page 1, before line 27, insert the following paragraphs:

20 --Accordingly, the present invention is directed to a ring network which includes: a central network element for feeding in data and for distributing both working signals and protection signals on different transmission paths and in oppositely directed transmission directions, and wherein, proceeding from the central network element, the ring network is subdivided into a first part and a second part; a plurality of further network elements connected to subscribers for forwarding upstream data from the subscribers and for distributing the working signals to the

25 subscribers; wherein the central network element feeds the working signals into the first and second parts of the ring network; wherein the central network element, in accordance with portions of the working signals fed into the first and second parts of the ring network, feeds the working signals as protection signals into the respective other part of the ring network; and wherein the further network elements

forward the protection signals as far as the respective network element terminating the first and left-hand parts of the ring network, and the protection signals are fed into the respective other terminating network element of the first and second parts of the ring network and are forwarded counter to a transmission direction of the working signals to the central network element.

The present invention is further directed to a method for distributing data within a ring network for feeding in data and for distributing both working signals and protection signals on different transmission paths and in oppositely directed transmission directions and for forwarding data from subscribers and for distributing the working signals to the subscribers connected to network elements, the method including the steps of: subdividing the ring network into a first part and a second part; feeding the working signals into both the first and second parts of the ring network; feeding the working signals as protection signals into a respective other part of the ring network; forwarding the protection signals as far as the respective network element terminating the first and second parts of the ring network; feeding the protection signals into the respective other terminating network element of the first and second parts of the ring network; and forwarding the protection signals counter to a transmission direction of the working signals to the central network element.--

On page 1, line 27, insert --present-- before "invention".

On page 1, line 29, insert a --,-- after "utilized".

On page 1, line 31, insert --present-- before "invention".

On page 2, cancel lines 1-8 and substitute the following therefor:

--Additional features and advantages of the present invention are described in, and will be apparent from, the following Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments and the Drawings.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

On page 2, line 11, cancel the "," and substitute therefor a --;--.

On page 2, line 13, insert --teachings of the present-- after "the".

On page 2, line 14, cancel the "," and substitute therefor a --;--.

On page 2, line 16, cancel the “,” and substitute therefor a --;--.

On page 2, line 17, cancel the “,” and substitute therefor a --;--.

On page 2, line 20, cancel the “,” and substitute therefor a --;--.

On page 2, before line 25, insert the following centered heading:

5 **--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--**.

On page 2, line 33, cancel “are” and substitute therefor --is--.

On page 2a, line 1, insert --present-- before “invention”.

On page 3, line 1, cancel “In” and substitute therefor --First of all, in--.

On page 3, line 1, insert --of the present invention-- after “understanding”.

10 On page 3, lines 1-2, cancel “first of”.

On page 3, line 5, cancel “realization according to” and substitute therefor
--ring network which is known in--.

On page 3, line 10, cancel “are” and substitute therefor --is--.

On page 3, line 11, cancel “by means of” and substitute therefor --via--.

15 On page 3, line 12, cancel “are” and substitute therefor --is--.

On page 3, line 23, cancel “by” and substitute therefor --in--.

On page 3, line 27, insert a --,-- after “suitable”.

On page 3, line 28, insert a --,-- after “particular”.

On page 3, line 29, cancel the “,”.

20 On page 3, line 32, cancel “realise” and substitute therefor --achieve--.

On page 3, line 35, insert a --,-- after “is”.

On page 3, line 35, insert a --,-- after “case”.

On page 4, line 2, insert --present-- before “invention”.

On page 4, line 5, cancel “according to” and substitute therefor --of--.

25 On page 4, line 5, insert --present-- before “invention”.

On page 4, line 9, cancel “can”.

On page 4, line 9, insert --can-- after “also”.

On page 4, lines 14-15, cancel “In the case of the method according” and
substitute therefor --According--.

After page 10, add a new page 11 with the following text:

--ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A WDM ring network and method for distributing within such ring network for feeding in data and for distributing both working signals and protection signals on different transmission paths and in oppositely directed transmission directions, and for forwarding data from subscribers and for distributing the working signals to the subscribers.--

In the Claims:

On page 8, cancel line 1, and substitute the following left-hand justified heading therefor:

--I Claim As Our Invention:--

Please cancel claims 1-6, without prejudice, and substitute the following claims therefor:

7. A ring network, comprising:

a central network element for feeding in data and for distributing both working signals and protection signals on different transmission paths and in oppositely directed transmission directions, and wherein, proceeding from the central network element, the ring network is subdivided into a first part and a second part;

a plurality of further network elements connected to subscribers for forwarding upstream data from the subscribers and for distributing the working signals to the subscribers;

wherein the central network element feeds the working signals into the first and second parts of the ring network;

wherein the central network element, in accordance with portions of the working signals fed into the first and second parts of the ring network, feeds the working signals as protection signals into the respective other part of the ring network; and

wherein the further network elements forward the protection signals as far as the respective network element terminating the first and left-hand parts of the ring

network, and the protection signals are fed into the respective other terminating network element of the first and second parts of the ring network and are forwarded counter to a transmission direction of the working signals to the central network element.

5

8. A ring network as claimed in claim 7, wherein the network elements terminating the first and second parts of the ring network are designed such that the protection signals previously forward at the further network elements are selected and fed into the respective other terminating network element of the first and second parts of the ring network.

10

9. A ring network as claimed in claim 7, further comprising:
optical splitters for splitting the working signals.

15

10. A ring network as claimed in claim 7, further comprising:
one of optical filters and multiplexers for joining together different optical signals.

11. A method for distributing data within a ring network for feeding in data and for distributing both working signals and protection signals on different transmission paths and in oppositely directed transmission directions and for forwarding data from subscribers and for distributing the working signals to the subscribers connected to network elements, the method comprising the steps of:

20

subdividing the ring network into a first part and a second part;
feeding the working signals into both the first and second parts of the ring network;

25

feeding the working signals as protection signals into a respective other part of the ring network;

forwarding the protection signals as far as the respective network element terminating the first and second parts of the ring network;

feeding the protection signals into the respective other terminating network element of the first and second parts of the ring network; and

5 forwarding the protection signals counter to a transmission direction of the working signals to the central network element.

12. A method for distributing data within a ring network as claimed in claim 11, the method further comprising the steps of:

10 selecting, in the terminating network elements, the protection signals forwarded at the further network elements; and

feeding the protection signals into the respective other terminating network element of the first and second parts of the ring.

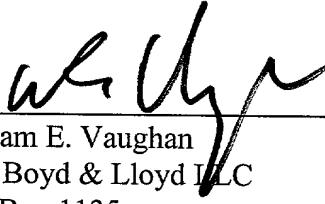
REMARKS

15 The present amendment makes editorial changes and corrects typographical errors in the specification in order to conform the specification to the requirements of the United States Patent practice. No new matter is added thereby. Original claims 1-6 have been canceled in favor of new claims 7-12. Claims 7-12 have been presented solely because the revisions by bracketing and underlining which would
20 have been necessary in claims 1-6 in order to present those claims in accordance with preferred United States Patent practice would have been too extensive, and thus would have been too burdensome. The amendment is intended for clarification purposes only and not for substantial reasons related to patentability pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Indeed, the cancellation of claims 1-6 does not
25 constitute an intent on the part of the Applicant to surrender any of the subject matter of claims 1-6.

Early consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

5



(Reg. No. 39,056)

William E. Vaughan
Bell, Boyd & Lloyd LLC
P.O. Box 1135
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1135
(312) 807-4292
Attorneys for Applicant

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UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY-CHAPTER II

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APPLICANT: Horst Mueller DOCKET NO: 112740-178
SERIAL NO: GROUP ART UNIT:
EXAMINER:

10 INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/DE99/02442
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 04 August 1999
INVENTION: WDM RING NETWORK AND METHOD

15 Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231

SUBMISSION OF DRAWINGS

Applicant herewith submits five sheets (Figs. 1-6) of drawings for the
20 above-referenced PCT application.

Respectfully submitted,


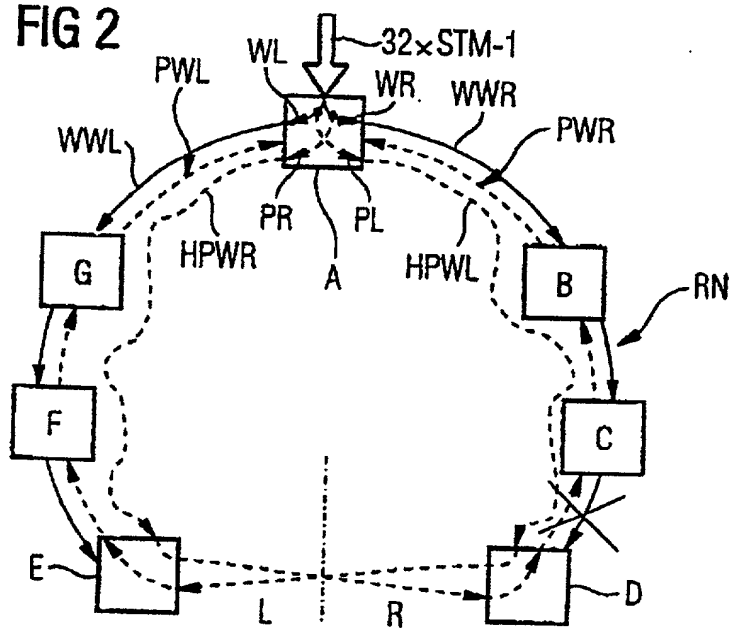
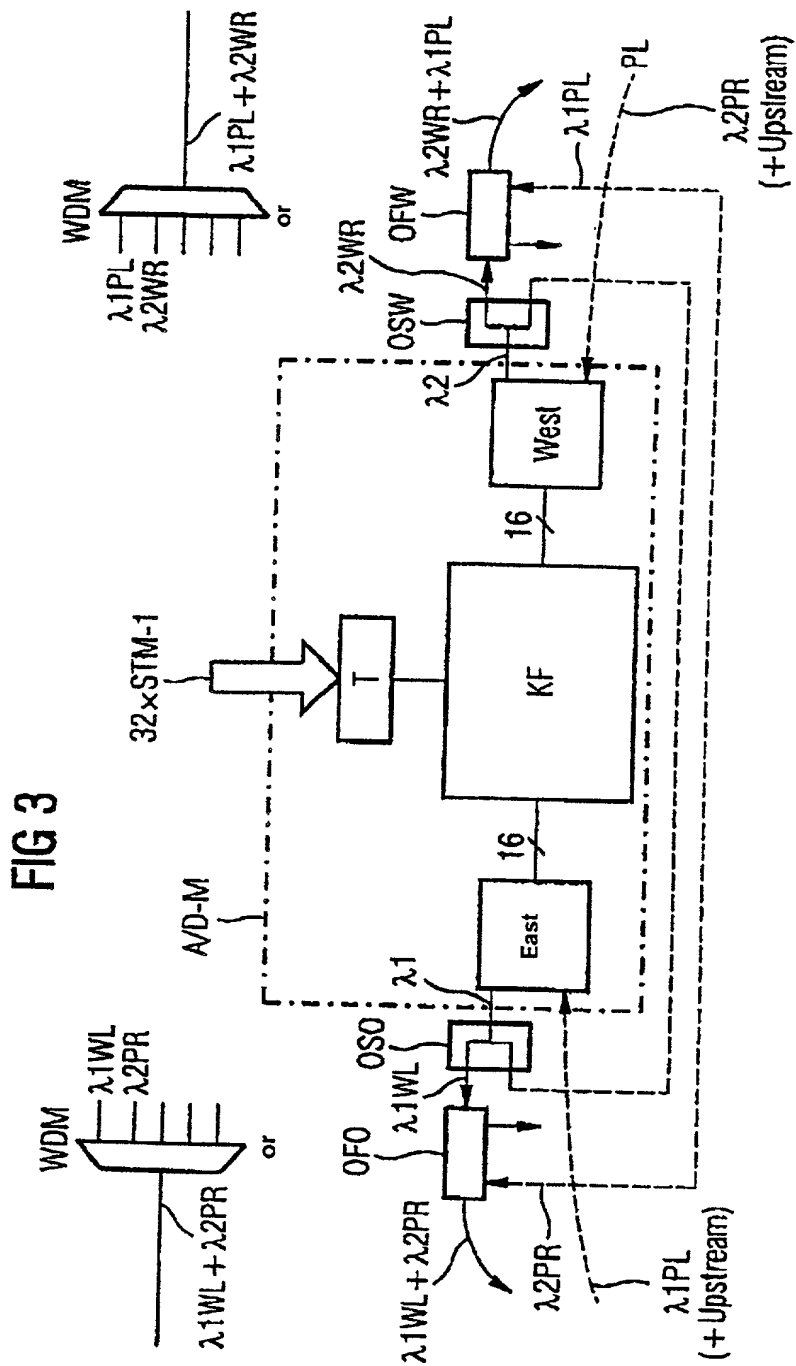
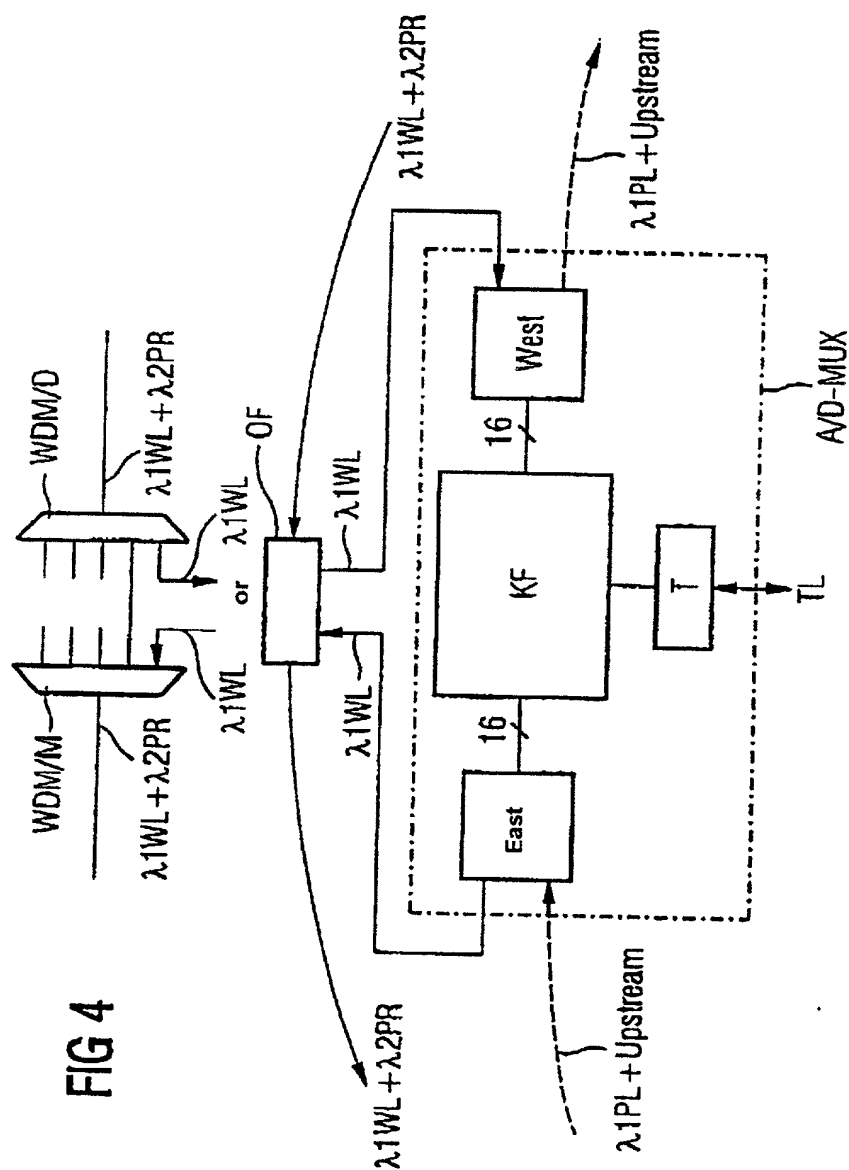

(Reg. No. 39,056)
William E. Vaughan
25 Bell, Boyd & Lloyd LLC
P.O. Box 1135
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1135
(312) 807-4292
Attorneys for Applicant
30

FIG 1







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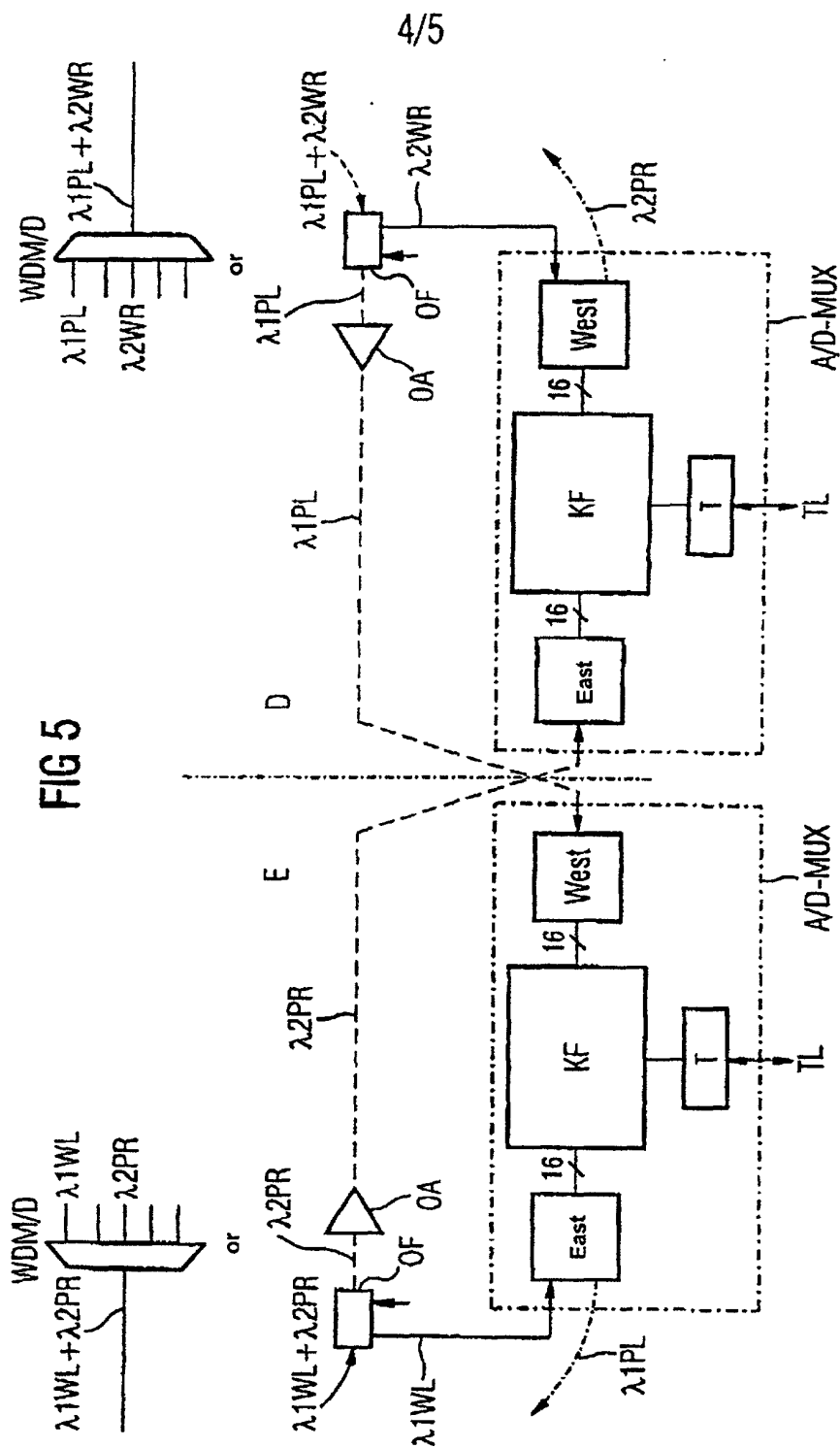


FIG 6

WDM RING NETWORK

Description

5 In a ring network with predominantly one-way data transport, such as e.g. in the case of data transport within the Internet or in the case of video distribution services, data are transmitted from a central network element, e.g. an internet server toward
10 the subscriber. In the case of this ring network utilization mentioned at the beginning, only very limited data transport takes place from a subscriber to the central network element.

15 However, conventional transmission methods in the synchronous digital hierarchy provide the same transmission capacity in the transmission direction to the subscriber and from the subscriber. Highly pronounced one-way data transport entails the disadvantage that almost half of the transmission
20 capacity of the ring network remains unutilized.

The invention is based on the object of specifying a circuit arrangement and a method with which the transmission capacity of a ring network with predominantly one-way data transport can be used.

25 According to the invention, the object set is achieved by means of patent claims 1 and 5.

The invention entails the advantage that the transmission capacity with predominantly one-way data transport on the ring network is utilized with
30 transmission reliability remaining the same.

The invention entails the advantage that data transport from the subscriber to the central network element of the ring is also possible.

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Further advantageous designs of the circuit arrangement and of the method are specified in the rest of the patent claims.

Further special features of the invention will become apparent from the following more detailed explanations of an exemplary embodiment with reference to drawings.

In the figures:

- 10 Figure 1 shows a construction and the data transport paths of a conventional ring network,
Figure 2 shows a construction and the data transport paths of a ring network according to the invention,
15 Figure 3 shows a configuration of a central network element,
Figure 4 shows a configuration of a network element,
Figure 5 shows a configuration of network elements which respectively terminate one half of the
20 ring network, and
Figure 6 shows a further configuration of network elements which respectively terminate one half of the ring network.

25 In the synchronous digital hierarchy SDH, use is preferably made of ring structures in which individual network elements for coupling out or coupling in data are integrated. The ring structure enables the transmission of data which, if they are
30 transmitted directly to the subscriber, are designated as working signals. Owing to the high degree of data protection demanded, the data to be transmitted to the subscriber are also transmitted as protection signals on a second transmission path within the ring to the
35 subscriber. This type of data transmission ensures a high degree of transmission reliability in the event of an interruption of the ring.

The invention's method with associated circuit configuration will be explained in more detail using a ring structure with synchronous transfer mode STM data transmission.

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In order to provide a better understanding, first of all data transport directed one-way will be assumed, in which no data transport takes place from a subscriber to the central network element.

5 Figure 1 illustrates a realization according to the prior art. In this figure, a central network element A and a multiplicity of network elements B to G are arranged in the ring. 16 x STM-1 signals, e.g. from a central internet server, are fed into the central
10 network element A of the ring, in which the data are transmitted by means of a synchronous transfer mode STM. In the central network element A, the data are fed into the ring both in the clockwise direction as working signals W on a working path WW and in the
15 counterclockwise direction as protection signals P in a protection path PW. The working path WW is represented by a solid line and the protection path PW is represented by a broken line.

 In the event of an interruption in the ring,
20 e.g. between the network element C and the network element D, the network elements B and C continue to be reached via the working path. The network elements D to G, by contrast, are supplied with the protection signals P.

25 The protection method used is a subnetwork connection protection SNCP method, also referred to as path protection method. This method is suitable in particular in the case of data traffic directed one-way, since it offers the same transmission capacity in
30 the ring as a shared ring protection method. In this method, the control of the working and protection signals is simple to realise since there is no need for any changeover protocols for a changeover in the network elements. The changeover in the network
35 elements is in each case effected at the receiving end on the basis of local information.

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Figure 2 illustrates the data paths within the ring according to the invention. The working path WWR, WWL is represented by a solid line and the protection path PWR, PWL is represented by a broken line. In the case of the method according to the invention, the ring is logically subdivided into two ring halves, proceeding from the network element A. 32 x STM-1 signals are fed into the ring by the central network element A, which can also be referred to as gateway node A. In this case, 16 x STM-1 signals are fed into the ring as working signals WR on the working path WWR in the clockwise direction and 16 x STM-1 signals are fed into the ring as working signals WL on the working path WWL in the counterclockwise direction. In the case of the method according to the invention, the protection signals PR, PL are transmitted on separate paths from the central network node A to the terminating network element pair D, E, between which the first and second parts of the ring adjoin one another. In the figure shown, the logical separating point of the ring subdivided into two ring halves is between the terminating network elements D and E. In the clockwise direction, data fed into the ring are forwarded in the left-hand ring half and, respectively, first part of the ring in the counterclockwise direction as protection signals past the network elements G and F as far as the network element E. Only in the terminating network element E are the protection signals fed into the ring and run in the opposite direction to the working signals in the right-hand ring half and, respectively, into the second part of the ring to the central network node A. The same procedure is effected with the data fed into the left-hand ring half and, respectively, into the first part of the ring. In this case, the protection signals are fed past the network elements B and C and selected only at the terminating network element D and fed into the terminating network element E into the right-hand ring half and run in

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the opposite transmission direction in the left-hand ring half to the working signals transmitted in the left-hand ring half.

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5 A configuration of the central network node A is represented in figure 3. The core of the central network node A is formed by an add/drop multiplexer A/D-MUX, to which 32 x STM-1 signals are fed. The add/drop multiplexer A/D-MUX is designed with a tributary connection T, a switching matrix KF and also optical STM-16 line interfaces East and West. The line interfaces East and West output optical signals, formed for example by selective lasers with specific wavelengths λ_1 and λ_2 . There are arranged at the line interfaces East and West, in each case in series, an optical splitter OSO, OSW and an optical filter OFO, OFW. In the optical splitter OSO the optical signal λ_1 is split into working signals λ_{1WL} and into protection signals λ_{1PL} . In the optical splitter OSW connected to the line interface West, the optical signal λ_2 is split into working signals λ_{2WR} and protection signals λ_{2PR} .

20 Downstream of the line interface East, in the optical filter OFO, the working signals λ_{1WL} of the line interface East and the protection signals λ_{2PR} formed in the optical splitter OSW at the line interface West are added and form an optical signal λ_{1WL} and λ_{2PR} . An optical signal λ_{2WR} and λ_{1PL} is formed by the optical filter OFW in a corresponding manner in the opposite direction.

25 The working and protection signals λ_{1WL} , λ_{2PR} and λ_{2WR} , λ_{1PL} , respectively, are in each case forwarded to the nearest network elements G, F, E and B, C, D, respectively.

30 At both optical filters OFO, OFW there is, however, also the possibility of selecting a desired optical signal.

35 Instead of the optical filters OFO, OFW, it is also possible to use wavelength division multiplexers WDM. Protection signals and upstream signals pass to the line interfaces East and West from the respectively following network elements.

Figure 4 shows a configuration of the network elements B, C, F and G of the ring. An optical filter OF or a wavelength division demultiplexer WDM/D; wavelength division multiplexer WDM/M in the network elements F and G in the left-hand ring half taps off from the optical signal λ_{1WL} , λ_{2PR} the working signal λ_{1WL} and allows the protection signal λ_{2PR} to pass. Likewise, the protection signal λ_{1PL} in the optical filters OF of the network elements B, C in the right-hand ring half are fed past the network elements B, C in the right-hand ring half.

At the line interface West, the working signal λ_{1WL} is fed to the add/drop multiplexer A/D-MUX, and through the switching matrix KF, signals intended for subscriber TL connected to this network element are coupled out and passed on to the subscriber TL via a tributary connection T.

Portions of the working signal λ_{1WL} that are to be forwarded are coupled via the line interface East once again by means of the optical filter OF into the data stream on the working path WWL of the ring, so that an optical signal λ_{1WL} and λ_{2PR} is once again produced. In the opposite direction, at the line interface East, in this case the protection and upstream signals can be applied to the A/D MUX. In the right-hand half of the ring, by means of the same procedure, a specific signal for a subscriber in the network elements B, C is coupled out and the remainder of the working signal is coupled in again and protection and upstream signals are forwarded.

Figure 5 shows a configuration of the terminating network elements D and E which respectively terminate one half of the ring network. With the aid of an optical filter OF or a wavelength division demultiplexer WDM/D, the working signal λ_{1WL} is coupled out from the terminating network element E and fed to a line interface East of the terminating network element E. The protection signal λ_{2PR} is fed, if appropriate, via an optical amplifier OA to the

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line interface East of the terminating network element
D. Via the switching

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matrix KF of the terminating network element D and the line interface West of the terminating network element D, the protection signals $\lambda 2PR$ previously forwarded on to the auxiliary protection path HPWR in the left-hand half of the ring pass into the protection path PWR of the right-hand half R of the ring network RN. The protection signals $\lambda 1PL$ which were previously forwarded on the auxiliary protection path HPWL in the right-hand half R of the ring network RN pass via the line interface West, the switching matrix KF and via the line interface East into the protection path PWL of the left-hand half L of the ring network.

Figure 6 shows a further configuration of the network elements D and E which respectively terminate one half of the ring network. This configuration differs from that shown in figure 5 by virtue of the fact that data are sent from a subscribers TL connected to these network elements to other network elements or to the central network element A within the left-hand or right-hand half of the ring. In a departure from the illustration from figure 5, the protection signal $\lambda 2PR$ is fed from the optical filter OF via a tributary connection to the switching matrix KF of the network element E. The protection upstream data transport is likewise fed in the switching matrix KF. Between the line interfaces East of the network element D and the line interface West of the network element E, the aggregate signal formed from protection signal $\lambda 2PR$ and protection upstream signal and also the aggregate signal formed from the protection signal $\lambda 1PL$ and protection upstream signal are output. The upstream data stream in the ring correspondingly reduces the capacity of the data fed into the central network element A.

Patent claims

1. Ring network (RN) having
- a central network element (A) for feeding in data and for distributing working and protection signals ($\lambda 1WL$, $\lambda 2PR$; $\lambda 2WR$, $\lambda 1PL$) on different transmission paths and in oppositely directed transmission directions,
 - further network elements (B,...,G) for forwarding upstream data from the subscriber (TL) and for distributing working signals ($\lambda 1WL$, $\lambda 2WR$) to the subscribers (TL) connected to the network elements, characterized
- in that the ring network (RN), proceeding from the central network element (A) is subdivided into a first part (R) and a second part (L),
- in that in the central network element (A) feeds working signals ($\lambda 2WR$, $\lambda 1WL$) into the first and second parts of the ring network (RN),
- in that the central network element (A), in accordance with the portions of the working signals ($\lambda 2WR$, $\lambda 1WL$) fed into the first and second parts (R,L) of the ring network (RN), feeds said signals as protection signals ($\lambda 2PR$, $\lambda 1PL$) respectively into the other part of the ring network,
- in that the further network elements (B, C; G, F) forwards the protection signals ($\lambda 2PR$, $\lambda 1PL$) in each case as far as the network element (D, E) terminating the first and left-hand parts of the ring network and the protection signals ($\lambda 2PR$, $\lambda 1PL$) are fed into the respective other terminating network element (E, D) of the first and second parts (R, L) of the ring network (RN) and are forwarded counter to the transmission direction of the working signals to the central network element (A).
2. Circuit arrangement according to claim 1, characterized
- in that the network elements (D, E) terminating the first and second parts of the ring network (RN) are

- 8a -

designed in such a way that the protection signals (λ_{2PR} , λ_{1PL}) previously forwarded at the further network elements are selected and fed into the

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respective other terminating network element (E, D) of the first and second parts of the ring network (RN).

3. Circuit arrangement according to claim 1 or 2, characterized

5 in that optical splitters are provided for splitting the working signals (λ_{2WR} , λ_{1WL}).

4. Circuit arrangement according to one of claims 1 to 3, characterized

10 in that optical filters or multiplexers are used for joining together different optical signals.

5. Method for distributing data within a ring network (RN) for feeding in data and for distributing working and protection signals (λ_{1WL} , λ_{2PR} ; λ_{2WR} , λ_{1PL})

15 on different transmission paths and in oppositely directed transmission directions and for forwarding data from the subscriber (TL) and for distributing working signals (λ_{1WL} , λ_{2WR}) to the subscribers (TL) connected to the network elements,

20 characterized

in that the ring network (RN) is subdivided into a first part (R) and a second part (L),

in that working signals (λ_{2WR} , λ_{1WL}) are fed into both parts of the ring network (RN),

25 in that, in accordance with the portions of the working signals (λ_{2WR} , λ_{1WL}) fed into the two parts of the ring network (RN), said signals are respectively fed as protection signals (λ_{2PR} , λ_{1PL}) into the other part of the ring network,

30 in that the protection signals (λ_{2PR} , λ_{1PL}) forwards in each case as far as the network element (D, E) terminating the first and second parts of the ring network and the protection signals (λ_{2PR} , λ_{1PL}) are fed into the respective other terminating network element

35 (E, D) of the first and second parts of the ring network and are forwarded counter to the transmission direction of the working signals to the central network element (A).

6. Method according to claim 5,
characterized
in that the protection signals (λ_{2PR} , λ_{1PL}) forwarded
at further network elements (B, C; G, F) are selected
5 in the terminating network elements (D, E) and are fed
into the respective other terminating network element
(E, D) of the first and second parts of the ring.

T.03220-29098460

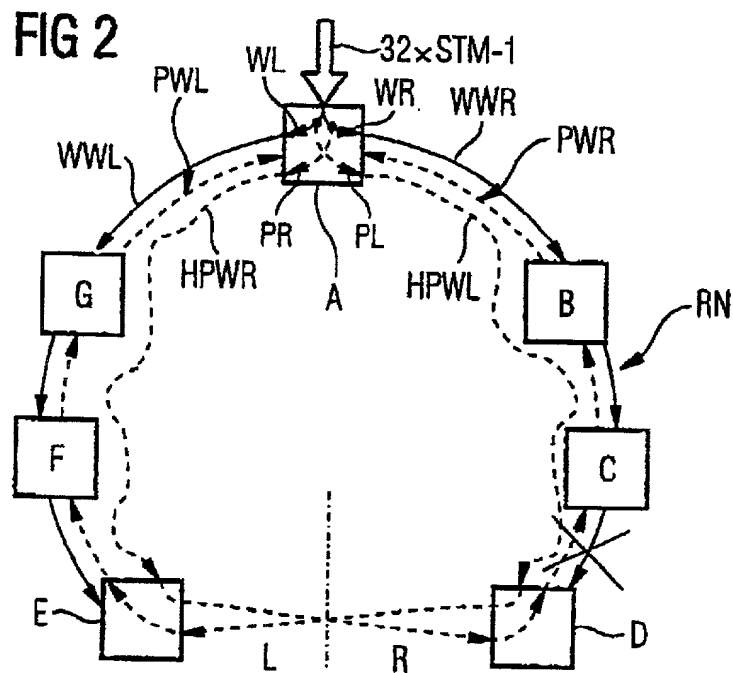
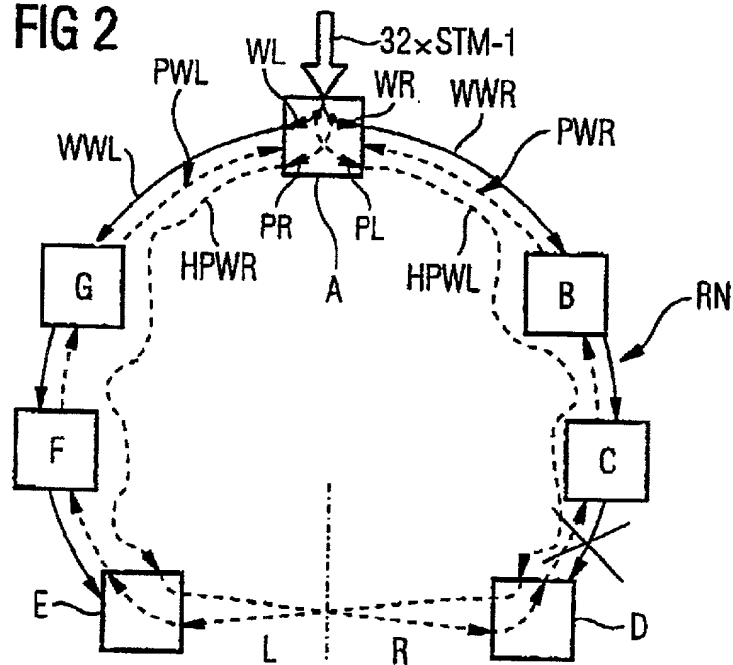


FIG 2



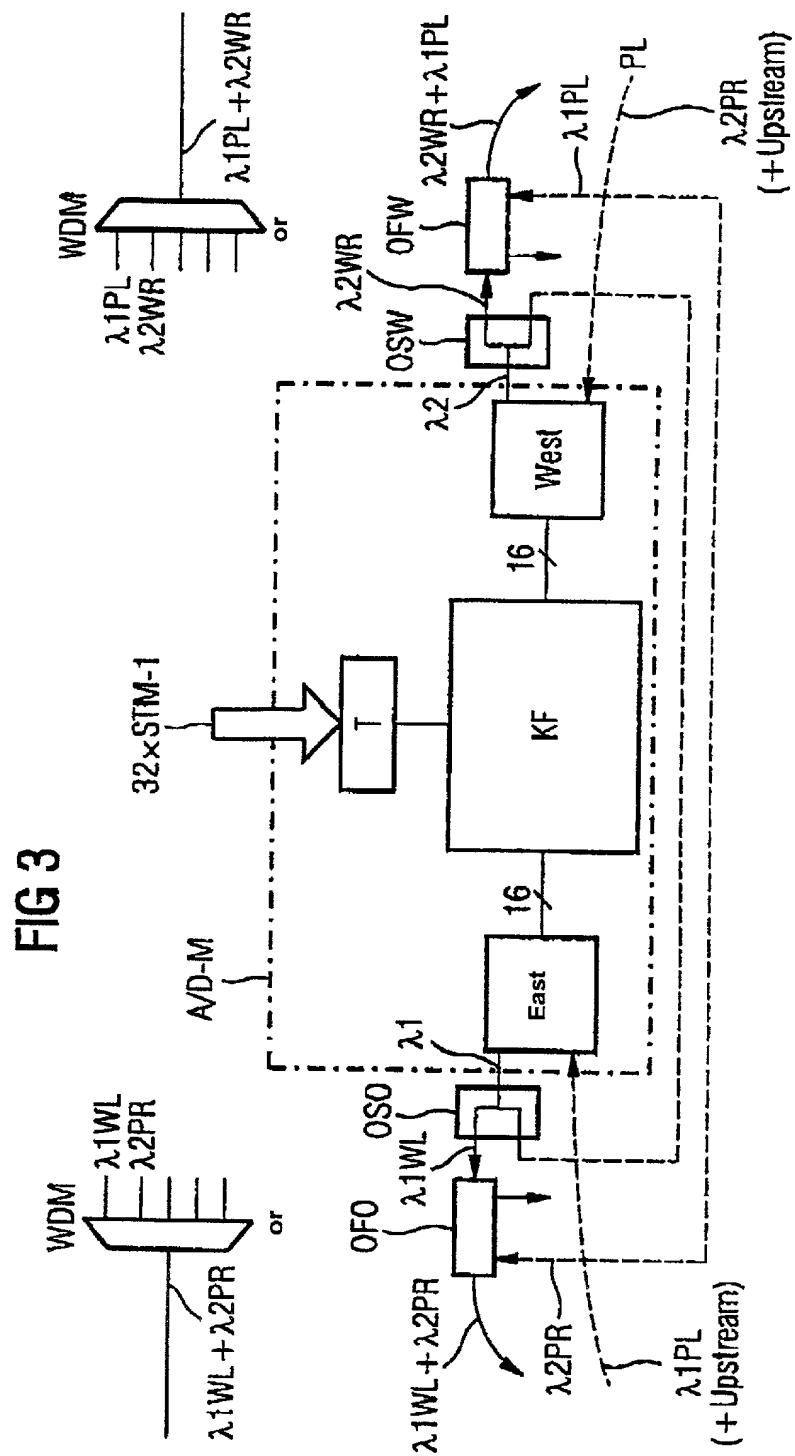
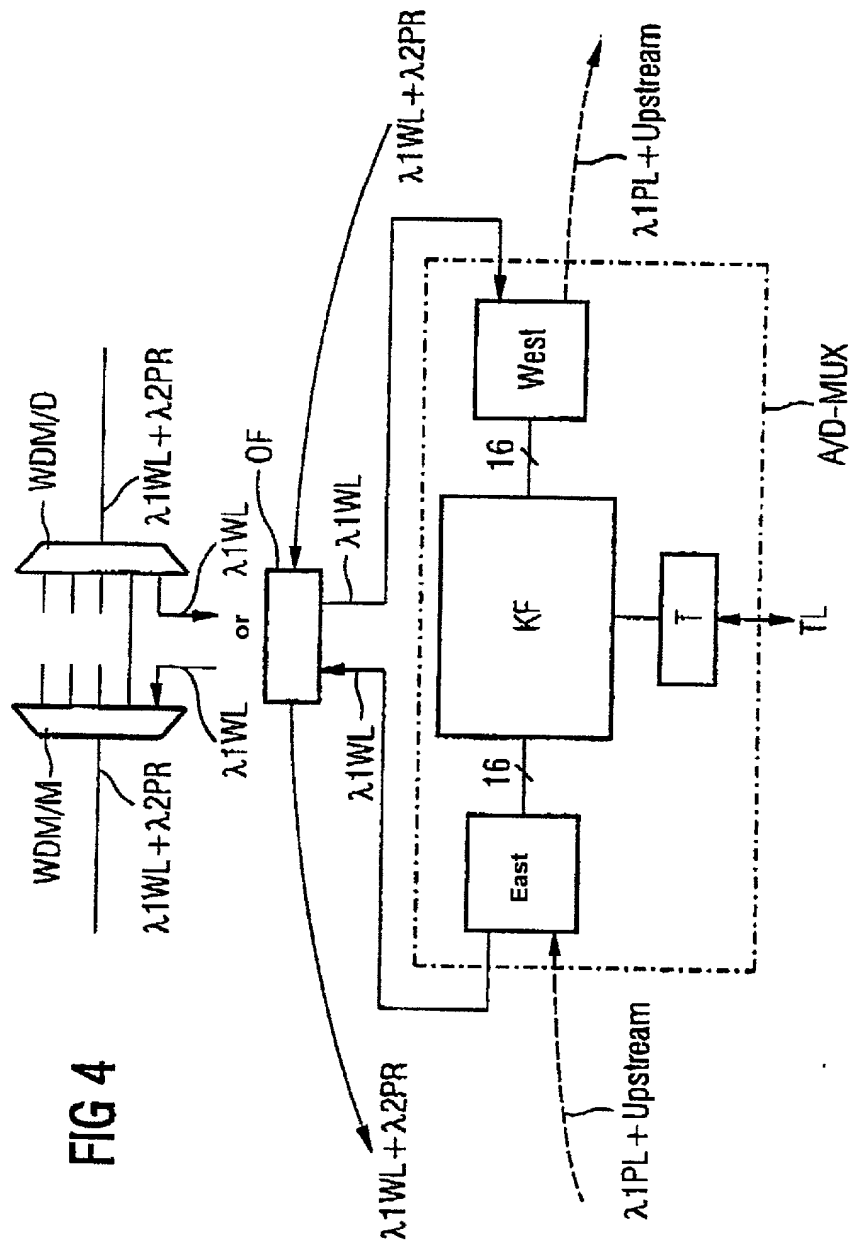
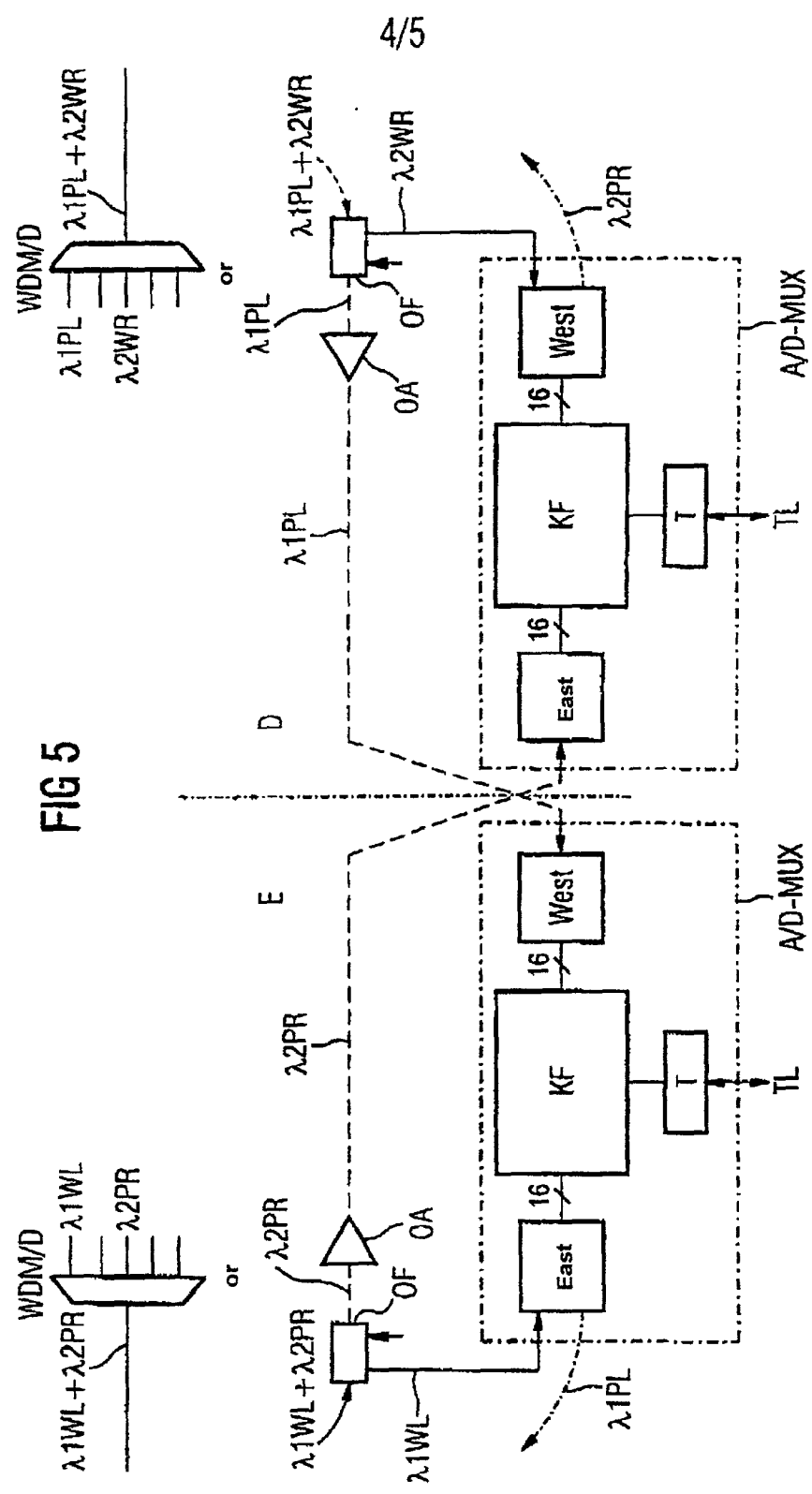
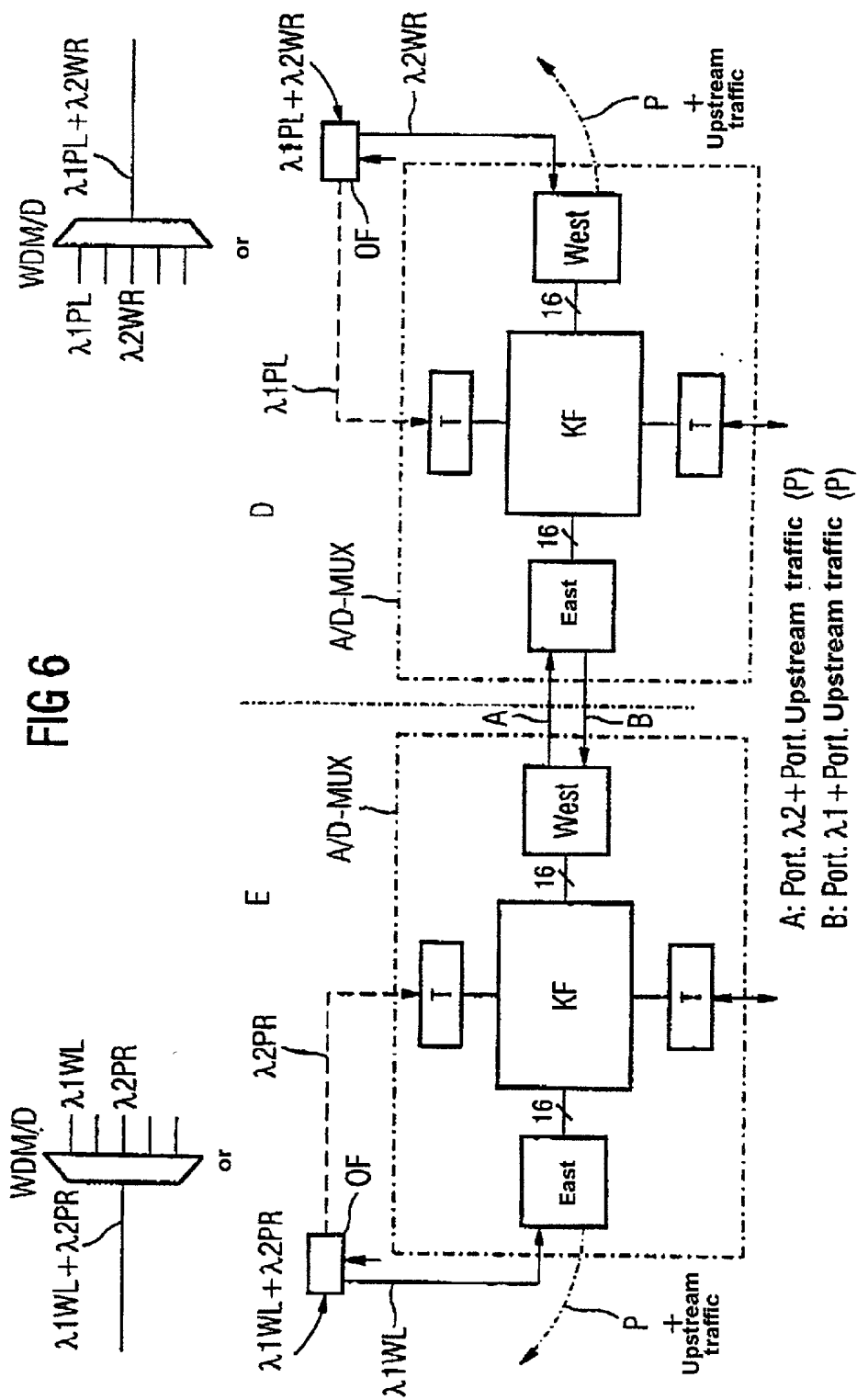


FIG 4







Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

Erklärung Für Patentanmeldungen Mit Vollmacht

German Language Declaration

Als nachstehend benannter Erfinder erkläre ich hiermit an Eides Statt:

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

dass mein Wohnsitz, meine Postanschrift, und meine Staatsangehörigkeit den im Nachstehenden nach meinem Namen aufgeführten Angaben entsprechen,

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

dass ich, nach bestem Wissen der ursprüngliche, erste und alleinige Erfinder (falls nachstehend nur ein Name angegeben ist) oder ein ursprünglicher, erster und Miterfinder (falls nachstehend mehrere Namen aufgeführt sind) des Gegenstandes bin, für den dieser Antrag gestellt wird und für den ein Patent beantragt wird für die Erfindung mit dem Titel:

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

WDM Ringnetz

deren Beschreibung

the specification of which

(zutreffendes ankreuzen)

☒ hier beigelegt ist.

(check one)

☐ is attached hereto.

☐ am _____ als

☐ was filed on _____ as

PCT internationale Anmeldung

PCT international application

PCT Anwendungsnummer _____

PCT Application No. _____

eingereicht wurde und am _____

and was amended on _____

abgeändert wurde (falls tatsächlich abgeändert).

(if applicable)

Ich bestätige hiermit, dass ich den Inhalt der obigen Patentanmeldung einschliesslich der Ansprüche durchgesehen und verstanden habe, die eventuell durch einen Zusatzantrag wie oben erwähnt abgeändert wurde.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims as amended by any amendment referred to above.

Ich erkenne meine Pflicht zur Offenbarung irgendwelcher Informationen, die für die Prüfung der vorliegenden Anmeldung in Einklang mit Absatz 37, Bundesgesetzbuch, Paragraph 1.56(a) von Wichtigkeit sind, an.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

Ich beanspruche hiermit ausländische Prioritätsvorteile gemäss Abschnitt 35 der Zivilprozessordnung der Vereinigten Staaten, Paragraph 119 aller unten angegebenen Auslandsanmeldungen für ein Patent oder eine Erfindersurkunde, und habe auch alle Auslandsanmeldungen für ein Patent oder eine Erfindersurkunde nachstehend gekennzeichnet, die ein Anmeldedatum haben, das vor dem Anmeldedatum der Anmeldung liegt, für die Priorität beansprucht wird.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

"09785056" 02445 WOUS

German Language Declaration

Prior foreign applications
Priorität beansprucht

Priority Claimed

198 39 609.0 Germany 31. August 1998
(Number) (Country) (Day Month Year Filed)
(Nummer) (Land) (Tag Monat Jahr eingereicht)

☒ ☐
Yes No
Ja Nein

(Number) (Country) (Day Month Year Filed)
(Nummer) (Land) (Tag Monat Jahr eingereicht)

☐ ☐
Yes No
Ja Nein

(Number) (Country) (Day Month Year Filed)
(Nummer) (Land) (Tag Monat Jahr eingereicht)

☐ ☐
Yes No
Ja Nein

Ich beanspruche hiermit gemäss Absatz 35 der Zivilprozessordnung der Vereinigten Staaten, Paragraph 120, den Vorzug aller unten aufgeführten Anmeldungen und falls der Gegenstand aus jedem Anspruch dieser Anmeldung nicht in einer früheren amerikanischen Patentanmeldung laut dem ersten Paragraphen des Absatzes 35 der Zivilprozessordnung der Vereinigten Staaten, Paragraph 122 offenbart ist, erkenne ich gemäss Absatz 37, Bundesgesetzbuch, Paragraph 1.56(a) meine Pflicht zur Offenbarung von Informationen an, die zwischen dem Anmeldedatum der früheren Anmeldung und dem nationalen oder PCT internationalen Anmeldedatum dieser Anmeldung bekannt geworden sind.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §122, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

(Application Serial No.)
(Anmeldeseriennummer)

(Filing Date)
(Anmeldedatum)

(Status)
(patentiert, anhängig,
aufgegeben)

(Status)
(patented, pending,
abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)
(Anmeldeseriennummer)

(Filing Date)
(Anmeldedatum)

(Status)
(patentiert, anhängig,
aufgeben)

(Status)
(patented, pending,
abandoned)

Ich erkläre hiermit, dass alle von mir in der vorliegenden Erklärung gemachten Angaben nach meinem besten Wissen und Gewissen der vollen Wahrheit entsprechen, und dass ich diese eidesstattliche Erklärung in Kenntnis dessen abgebe, dass wissentlich und vorsätzlich falsche Angaben gemäss Paragraph 1001, Absatz 18 der Zivilprozessordnung der Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika mit Geldstrafe belegt und/oder Gefängnis bestraft werden koennen, und dass derartig wissentlich und vorsätzlich falsche Angaben die Gültigkeit der vorliegenden Patentanmeldung oder eines darauf erteilten Patentes gefährden können.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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German Language Declaration

VERTRETUNGSVOLLMACHT: Als benannter Erfinder beauftrage ich hiermit den nachstehend benannten Patentanwalt (oder die nachstehend benannten Patentanwälte) und/oder Patent-Agenten mit der Verfolgung der vorliegenden Patentanmeldung sowie mit der Abwicklung aller damit verbundenen Geschäfte vor dem Patent- und Warenzeichenamt: (Name und Registrationsnummer anführen)

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (list name and registration number)

And I hereby appoint

Messrs. William E. Vaughan (Reg. No. 39,056); Robert M. Barrett (Reg. No. 30,142); Michael S. Leonard (Reg. No. 37,557); Patricia A. Kane (Reg. No. 46,446); Thomas C. Basso (Reg. No. P46,541); Robert W. Connors (Reg. No. P46,442); Troy A. Groetren (Reg. No. 46,442); Adam H. Masia (Reg. No. 35,602); Dante J. Picciano (Reg. No. 33,543); Amy J. Gast (Reg. No. 41,773); Timothy L. Harney (Reg. No. 38,174); Renato L. Smith (Reg. No. 45,117); and Alan L. Barry (Reg. No. 30,819).

Telefongespräche bitte richten an:
(Name und Telefonnummer)

Direct Telephone Calls to: (name and telephone number)

(312) 807-4292
Ext. _____

Postanschrift:

Send Correspondence to:

William E. Vaughan
Bell, Boyd & Lloyd
P.O. Box 1135
Chicago, IL 60690-1135

Voller Name des einzigen oder ursprünglichen Erfinders:		Full name of sole or first inventor:	
MÜLLER, Horst			
Unterschrift des Erfinders	Datum	Inventor's signature	Date
<i>Horst Müller</i>	<i>12.2.2001</i>		
Wohnsitz		Residence	
D-82069 Hohenschäftlarn, Germany		<i>DEX</i>	
Staatsangehörigkeit		Citizenship	
Bundesrepublik Deutschland			
Postanschrift		Post Office Address	
Dammstr. 11			
D-82069 Hohenschäftlarn			
Bundesrepublik Deutschland			
Voller Name des zweiten Miterfinders (falls zutreffend):		Full name of second joint inventor, if any:	
Unterschrift des Erfinders	Datum	Second Inventor's signature	Date
Wohnsitz		Residence	
Staatsangehörigkeit		Citizenship	
Postanschrift		Post Office Address	

(Bitte entsprechende Informationen und Unterschriften im Falle von dritten und weiteren Miterfindern angeben).

(Supply similar information and signature for third and subsequent joint inventors).